

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed are an image processing apparatus that can decrease such a misjudgment that an area including an extremely small-sized character is judged to be a halftone-dot area when a judgment of a halftone-dot area is performed based on a number of isolated pixels in a predetermined area, and an image forming apparatus that utilizes the image processing apparatus. An isolated pixel signal S2 that is outputted from an isolated pixel detection unit 443 and that indicates whether a target pixel corresponds to an isolated pixel is inputted into a filter processing unit 444. The filter processing unit 444 corrects the isolated pixel signal S2 based on whether the target pixel should be handled as an isolated pixel. A judgment is then performed as to whether an area including the target pixel is a halftone-dot area, based on a signal S3 outputted from the filter processing unit 444.

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